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LETTERS OF CHAS. A. DANA.

Terse, Telling Reports to War Department from the Front.

IV.

SIEGE OF CHATTANOOGA.

Army of the Cumberland Surrounded by Enemies-Reinforcements on the Way, but Afar Off-Wheeler Raids Union Communications and Does Much Damage, but is Forced Back. Review of Chickamauga,

[COPYRIGHT.] HOSE LAST DAYS OF SEPtember, 1863, were exceedingly anxious ones for the beleaguered Army of the Cumberland, cooped up on a narrow tract of ground around Chattanooga. Around them rose high mountain walls, which were literally swarming with enemies, looking down upon them as certain prev. If they could not take them by force they could certainly starve them into surrender.

Every day their enemies came nearer and occupied more threatening positions; every day saw the cordon of investment drawn closer. Every day new batteries rose from positions which commanded their camps. They were conscious that every regiment could be counted, every movement observed from the lookouts on Mission Ridge and Lookout Mountain. Their enemies knew all about them, and could readily assemble behind the impenetrable mountain vail enough force to crush them, and choose their own time for doing it.

Their only salvation lay in the prompt arrival of reinforcements. Burnside was 100 miles away, at Knoxville, and was expected daily, but he never came. The Army of the Tennessee was scattered from Memphis to Vicksburg, but it over the railroad from there to Chattanooga. But the Memphis & Chattawrecked during the war, and Gen. Sherorder as he came.

to the emergency and started the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps west by railroad. The way these two great bodies of men were picked and hurried half-way across the continent was a marvel of logistic achievements. It was something that had never before been approached in the history of the world. But the burningly anxious question was whether any of these reinforcements could reach the Army of the Cumberland in time.

The rebels had all the advantages. They had shorter lines everywhere to their bodies of men. It was very much nearer for them to their garrisons on the seaboard, and to their armies in Virginia and elsewhere than it was for the Union armies dispersed over a circumference 2,000 miles in extent. If Jeff Davis's generalship had been first-class he would have rushed forces enough to Chattanooga before the end of September to atterly destroy the 35,000 men whom we had there to oppose him. Fortunately for us he was not a first-class General, nor even a fourth-class.

Toward the last of September the lines around Chattanooga had been made strong enough to repel any rush of the forces that then appeared to be in front, and the Army of the Cumberland was taking more heart from the nonaggressiveness of their enemies. Dana was so confident that nothing especial would happen for a few days, that he took the opportunity to go back to Nashville and telegraphed:

CHATTANOOGA, Sept. 28; 4 a. m. ently lying still, except occasional picket skirmishing. We are fortifying. We know that rebels have force at all points in Chattanooga Valley in our front, but their principal camps are on the Chickamauga, just over G. W. Smith, and others who afterward Missionary Ridge. Our signal officers have rose to distinction. His standing gave him deciphered signals from their signal stations a coveted place in the Engineer Corps, and showing that Longstreet is still here. We he spent the next few years planning and learn from prisoners and from a flag of truce | building fortifications and teaching engi-Rosecrans sent out yesterday that two brigades neering at West Point. This was not stirof Longstreet's Corps have come up since the resigned in 1851, to become an architect battle. Bragg yesterday agreed to surrender and engineer in Cincinnati, When the our wounded after paroling them, and to war broke out. Rosecrans threw himself allow supplies to be sent to those who cannot | into it, with fiery ardor. His brother was be moved. I go to Nashville to-day; will be a Catholic Bishop, and the two had the long Spring and Summer, while the Army here again Thursday.

LOOKING OUT FOR THE CRACKER-LINE. possible the Army of the Cumberland | ment as Colonel of the 23d Ohio, in which became anxious about its communications with Nashville, and the railroad by lead this to the field, for his reputation as The campaigns for Tuilahoma and for some assurance as to this in his first dis- tion of Gen. Scott. He was immediately patch from Nashville:





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THE SUPPLY TRAIN. The Army Mule-the mute, inglorious veteran of the war. Published by Fords, Howard & Hulbert, of New York.

started at once, upon receipt of the news | the army mule. No one did quite so much to prosecute hostilities to the bitter end, no one said less about surof Chickamauga. It had a long journey rendering or compromising, no one troubled himself less about the slavery question, no one gave less opposition to to make. The shortest way was to come the arming of the negroes. He went in at the very first call, and stayed through till after Appointation. He was up to Memphis by steamboat, and then always present for duty.—that is, except when he managed to cat off his halter and es ape,—he went on every march and into every fight that his regiment went, he plodded through all the mud, sweat through all the dog-days, took all the rain, sleet and snow, and never left the line, the march or the camp, without orders, except when he could get away. He fell on every battlefield where Loyalty struggled with Treason, and an infinite number of other nooga Railroad had been terribly places beside. He was beaten and starved to death in "a thousand circling camps"; his bones bleached on every hillside; his lifeless corpse was "the Quartermaster's mile-post" wherever Union armics marched. He was hungry man was instructed to put it in working oftener than he was well-fed, and after straining all day to bring up food for others, he has been compelled to make The War Department had waked up rest of the army put together, and yet he was never known to "talk back." As to his kicking back, that is another | made the heart sad.

The unknown, unsung, unpraised, unpromoted, unpressioned hero of the war was | matter. He has heard himself and all his family to the third and fourth generation described in terms of burning It, yet taken it all with saintly meetines; fter four years of arduous service for the Union, after enduring perils and hardships beyond the power of

tongue to describe, he was disbanded, and sold to a street-car company, to pass the evening of his days in slavish subservience to the tinkle of the conductor's bell and the lash of an underpaid tough of a driver. The mule has never had justice done him. Without him the war could not have been carried on a day. He was the corner stone of the fame of Grant, Sherman, Thomas, Meade, and Sheridan. Yet he is never mentioned in better purpose. I would not say this boast-connection with them. It is only to-day, after the last mule that took part in the struggle has passed beyond the ingly; but "thanks be unto God who giveth reach of the stinging epithet and the piercing lash, that we begin to really appreciate how much we owe to him.

It has been said that any "army is like a snake, because it travels on its belly." The picture illustrates this. It represents the mule in his day of primy usefulness, when he was the sole means of communication over muddy, mountainous roads, between the ever-hungry front and the plenteous rear. It will bring a flood of recollections to his supper off a cottonwood pole, with the wagon-tongue for dessert. It was hard to get along with him, but the mind of the veteran of days when even six-mule-power could not get his rations up to him, and of days when having early learned to regard the welfare and utterly impossible to get along without him. He had to endure more curses, insults and opprobrium than all the he himself struggled with the poor animals over the awful roads, with all the labor and weariness of war, which

MAJ.-GEN. W. S. ROSECRANS.

His paternal ancestry was of sturdy old | that he would be charged with intriguing to | phenomenal intellectual gifts, he had glardescended from Timothy Hopkins, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independ- immediately began to display his remarkence. From the first, Rosecrans was a lable energy. He changed the name to the ravenous student, with a particular bent. Army of the Cumberland, because the for mathematics, science and religion. All quiet along the lines. Enemy appar- The last led him in early youth to forsake his hereditary Calvinism and become an ardent Catholic. He graduated from West Point in 1812, fifth in a class of 56, in which were Longstreet, John Pope, Doubleday, Van Dorn, John Newton, McLaws, greatest influence in bringing their coreligionists into hearty support of the war. Gen. McCleilan appointed him on his staff, with-the rank of Major, but the Governor of After making its front as strong as Ohio gave him a more congenial appointprivate. He did not get an opportunity to upon operations of singular brilliancy,

left in command in that State when Mc Clellan was pro-moted, and by his to add to his reputation.

But it was found necessary to make a command for Gen. and Gen. Rosecrans was relieved by him. and ordered to coma very sharp tongue. and it was entirely luka and Corinth, below Gen. Grant's cided to relieve Gen.

Buell from the command of the Army of | March 11. Maj.-Gen. Wm. Starke Rosecrans was the Ohio, the command was offered to Gen. Rosecrans parrowly failed in being i Gen. Thomas, who declined it, from fear other name savored of too little aggreswhere he fought one of the bloodiest battles in history. The victory was largely a personal one, for the enemy greatly outnumbered him, and got a decided advantage the first day. But Rosecrans decided

to stay and fight it out, and this accorded with the disposition of his army. His success made him for the time the foremost General in the army, for all the rest were then under a cloud. Unfortunutely, he felt this too strongly, and it paralyzed his energy for further operations which might endanger his position. Despite the urgings of the War Department, he held his great army inactive during the of the Tennessee captured Vicksburg, and the Army of the Potomac fought and lost the battle of Chancellorsville and fought

and won the battle of Gettysburg. The consequence was that he gained the active dislike of the Secretary of War. President McKinley was then serving as a When he at last decided to move it was ordered to service in West Virginia. His place, he would have passed into history activity was prodigious. He was kindly, as a great master of the science of war. considerate and genial with his men, and The battle of Chickamauga caught him McCown's Division, about three thousand there will soon be done, and that over Run- campaign in West Virginia, which crowned joined to the feeling of Gen. Grant and Upsham says Bragg had no intention to there is no other man whose appointment abled Volunteers.

McClellan with Secretary Stanton against him, secured flank or outwit Rosecrans, but simply to would be so welcome to this army. I would He was i his relief from command. After three months of inactivity, in which, to his praise be it said, he did not sulk as some other Generals, but did all that he could to help forward the war, he was appointed to command in Missouri. There he was unexpectedly confronted with the gravest kind of a crisis. The Copperheads in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri had been intensely active, and some sort of a concerted operation had been arranged which was to be initiated by Sterling Price's invasion of Missouri at the head of a much stronger force than Rosecrans could assemble against him. mand some divis- Rosecrans, who had no superior in his

ions under Gen. management of the secret service, was Halleck before Corthoroughly alive to the danger, but could not make the authorities at Washington quently came under aware of it. Price advanced rapidly and came within striking distance of St. Louis, mand, and then be- but Rosecrans was everywhere alert and gan that feud be- active, and by almost superhuman exertween them which tions outmanuvered and outfought him, lasted through life. and at last drove him out of the State, With all his geni- with a loss of nearly all his artillery, baggage-trains and more than 2,000 prisoners. At the conclusion of the war he resigned his commission as Brigadier-General in the Regular Army, and at 48 started in the He won the brilliant world anew as an engineer. He did brillittle victories of liant work, but did not achieve a fortune. He was elected to Congress from California, but the results were and appointed Register of the Treasury by Cleveland, and continued in office by Harrison. Feb. 27, 1889, he was, under a the bitterness de- special act of Congress, appointed Briga- been ordered to West Virginia, should remain veloped between dier-General, and placed on the retired

He had been in failing health for some years, and passed peacefully away at his home at Redondo, near Los Angeles, Cal.,

ning Water also ready to put up. Hooker will first be stationed at Wauhatchie, in siveness. He moved forward, and met Lookout Valley, at the junction of the Chat-the rebels on the banks of Stone River, tanooga & Trenton and Monphis & Charleston Railroads. Weather warm, pleasant.

It will be seen that the first duty expected from Gen. Hooker, upon his arrival from the East with the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps, was to make sure of the tenor of that report, and tell me in addithe railroad to Nashville.

REBEL STRENGTH AT CHICKAMAUGA. Dana seems to have struck an unusually "intelligent refugee" at Nashville, who gave him very exact information: Sept. 29.-An intelligent refugee from Georgia arrived here yesterday. His name liver as he passes among them, a soldier asked is Upsham, and he has a brother who is Post him if Gen. McCook still commanded the Quartermaster at Dalton, which place he left Twentieth Corps. "Yes," was the answer. two days after Chickamauga battle. He says "Then the right will be licked again," said

in his brother's office. According to his report, when Bragg retreated from Chattanooga he had but 25,000 ridge, 8,000 strong, and one brigade from do so by officers.

crush his army, and that the result is felt to be failure. Gen. Gillem tells me he will have the Northwestern Railroad to Reynoldsburg | cer of the very highest qualities, soldierly and finished two months hence.

This made 67,000 regular troops, besides the militia, which attacked the Army of the Cumberland. The present figures, which are accepted by the Chattanooga Military Park Commission, are: Bragg, 71,000 men; Rosecrans, 55,000.

It is also true that Bragg and his I return to Chattanooga this afternoon. master, Jeff Davis, had calculated to absolutely crush the Army of the Cumberland by sheer weight of numbers, and | standing them off and saving itself and Chattanooga.

The ghastly story of the battle is hinted at in a subsequent dispatch:

Sept. 30.-Six thousand one hundred wounded are suddenly accumulated here from the battlefield of the Chickamauga, and, on representation of the medical officers that it is indispensable for the proper care of these wounded that Surgeon Clendenin, who has here for the present, I have taken the liberty to authorize it until you can be heard from. Please confirm or withdraw the permission thus given.

FEELING AGAINST M'COOK AND CRITTEN-DEN.

There was a strong "public opinion" Dutch stock, while his mother was directly supersede his superior. Gen. Rosecrans ing defects which prevented his reaching in the Army of the Cumberland, as there descended from Timothy Hopkins, one of was then assigned to the command, and must always be in an army made up of such splendid, thinking material. Dana acquaints the Secretary with this:

> Sept. 30.-Since my dispatch of the 27th several officers of prominence and worth - such as Gen. Garfield, Gen. Wood, and Col. Opdyckehave spontaneously waited upon me to represent the state of feeling in the army upon the subject of that dispatch. They all confirm in the strongest manner

tion that the same conviction pervades all ranks; in fact, I was myself aware that the soldiers believed victory to be impossible so long as McCook and Crittenden command army corps.

men which it is his constant practice to dethat the facts he states were learned by him | the man, and all the others agreed with him. This Col. Opdycke represents as the unanimous sentiment respecting both the Generals in question, and I have no doubt he is right.

strong, while Gov. Brown furnished 15,000 to the highest point in their esteem, as he has employed. He resigned his commission able hereafter. For let me tell you that the

earnestly recommend that in such an event his merits be considered. He is certainly an offipersonal. He refused before because a battle was imminent and he unacquainted with the combinations. No such reason now exists,

and I presume that he would accept. Sept. 30,-Nothing important occurred at Chattanooga yesterday. Four regiments, Steinwehr's Division, passed through here to Bridgeport last night. One division of Sherman's Corps arrived at Louisville yesterday.

WHEELER'S RAID ON OUR COMMUNICATIONS. cations were well justified. Fully 50 house," I trust. "Let us hold fast that we equally true that they did not, and that | miles of the road to the rear lay along their campaign was a defeat, since the the Tennessee River, within compara- ever unto God, who giveth us the victory

(Continued on third page)



MAJ. GEN. JAMES S. NEGLEY

was born in Allegany Co., Pa., Dec. 22, 1826, and educated at the Western Umversity. He served in the Mexican War in the Duquesne Grays, a crack militia company from Pittsburg. At the beginning of the rebellion he was commissioned vating circumstances. Think, also, of the The other day, as Gen. Rosecrans was mak- | a Brigadier-General, and commanded a prophets and apostles, and Christians of ing one of those little speeches to a group of division of milita in the three months service, under Gen. Patterson, in the lations than you or I; and (try to) be recon-Shenandoah Valley. Returning home, he ciled. organized a brigade of regiments raised in and around Pittsburg, and joined Gen. Sherman at Louisville in October, 1861. He was soon assigned to the command of a division. Upon Buell's retreat before the crushed millions who "have no com-Bragg, he was left behind in command at | forter." I charge you all never (in your Nashville, and defended that city so well trials) to forget the griefs of "the poor that as to receive special commendation. He cry, and of those that have none to help which it was supplied with food and ammunition. Dana was able to give ammunition was promoted to Major-General for his the divisions of Hood and McLaws, 21,000 cers and others, that the soldiers have lost their attachment for Gen. Rosecrans since he his conduct was very severely criticommanded a division at Store River, and them." cers and others, that the soldiers have lost conduct in that battle. At Chickamauga army in Chattanooga, after gaining that nessee, with 10,000; by Joe Johnston, from failed them in the battle, and that they now cized, and he was ordered before a Court of at any rate. I will now give her my reason Mississippi, with the division of Breckin- do not cheer him until they are ordered to Inquiry, which found him "not censurable," for doing so. First, it would use up all the which finding was approved. He was, how- scanty means she has, or is at all likely to Nashville, Sept. 29; 8 a.m.

Arrived here at 6 a.m. All quiet at Bridgeport, except that pickets occasionally fire across the Tennessee. No considerable rabel force in that vicinity. Builtond bridge across the Tennessee was due the great success of the rabel force in that vicinity. Builtond bridge across the tennessee was due the great success of the rabel force in that vicinity. Builtond bridge across the tennessee was due the great success of the rate of the blundering of subordinates and genial with his men, and specially became immensely popular. Within two weeks after he assumed commands are unprepared. The blundering of subordinates and genial with his men, and specially became immensely popular. Within two weeks after he assumed commands are unprepared. The blundering of subordinates are unprepared. The blundering of subordinates are to the highest point in their esteem, as he has in that of everyone who witnessed his conduct on that unfortunate and glorious day; and, should there be achange in the chief command, the considerate and genial with his men, and the special with his men, and the force in the blundering of subordinates and glorious day; and, should there be achange in the chief command, the considerate and genial with his men, and the special with his men, and the force in the considerable with short proposed. The blundering of subordinates are to the highest point in their esteem, as he has in the chief command, the force is considerable with the considerable and the force is considerable with the constant and the force is considerable and the force is considerable with his men, and the force is considerable with the blundering of subordinates. The blundering of subordinates are the assumed command in the force is considerable with the force is considerable with the constant and the force is considerable On the other hand, Gen. Thomas has risen ever, relieved of command, and not again have, to make herself and children comfort-

"THE AMERICAN CONFLICT."

Leading Incidents and Episodes of the War of the Rebellion.

> F IV. JOHN BROWN.

(Continued.) The Abolitionist Leader's Last Days. Letters Which Have Become Historic-The Execution-Precautions Against Rescue or Insurrection Brown Calm to the Last.

HE FOLLOWING WAS written by John Brown, while under sentence of death, to a relative then residing in Windham, O.:

CHARLESTOWN, JEFFERSON COUNTY, VA., 1 19th Nov., 1859. REV. LUTHER HUMPHREY-My Dear Friend: Your kind letter of the 12th instant is now before me. So far as my knowledge goes as to our mutual kindred. I suppose I am the first since the landing of Peter Brown from the Mayflower that has either been sentenced to imprisonment or to the gallows. But, my dear old frind, let not that fact alone grieve von. You cannot have forgotten how and where our grandfather (Captain John Brown) fell in 1776, and that he, too, might have perished on the scaffold had circumstances been but very little different. The fact that a man dies under the hand of an executioner (or otherwise) has but little to do with his true character, as I suppose. John Rogers perished at the stake, a great and good man, as I suppose; but his doing so does not prove that any other man who has died in the same way was good or other-

Whether I have any reason to be of good cheer (or not) in view of my end, I can assure you that I feel so; and that I am totally blinded if I do not really experience that strengthening and consolation you so faithfully implore in my behalf. The God of our Fathers reward your fidelity! I neither feel mortified, degraded, nor in the least ashamed of my imprisonment, my chain, or my near prospect of death by hanging. I feel assured "that not one hair shall fall from my head without the will of my heavenly Father." I also feel that I have long been endeavoring to hold exactly "such a fast as God has choson." See the passage in Isaiah which you have

No part of my life has been more happily spent than that I have spent here, and I humbly trust that no part has been spent to

us the victory," through infinite grace. I should be 60 years old were I to live till May 9, 1860. I have enjoyed much of life as it is, and have been remarkably prosperous, prosperity of others as my own. I have never, since I can remember, required a great amount of sleep, so that I conclude that I have already enjoyed full an average number of waking hours with those who reach their "three-score years and ten."

I have not as yet been driven to the use of glasses, but can see to read and write quite comfortably. But, more than that, I have generally enjoyed remarkably good health. I might go on to recount unnumbered and unmerited blessings, among which would be some very severe afflictions, and those the most needed blessings of all. And now, when I think how easily I might be left to spoil all I have done or suffered in the cause of Freedom, I hardly dare wish another voyage, even if I had the opportunity.

It is a long time since we met; but we shall The army's fears for its communi- now soon come together in our "Father's already have," remembering "we shall reap in due time if we faint not." "Thanks be Army of the Cumberland succeeded in tively easy striking distance of the through Jesus Christ our Lord." And now, my old warm-hearted friend, "Good-by." Your affectionate cousin, John Brown.

His letter to his family, written a week after his sentence to death, is as follows:

CHARLESTOWN, JEFFERSON Co., Va.,

DEAR WIFE AND CHILDREN-Every one: I will begin by saying that I have in some degree recovered from my wounds, but that I am quite weak in my back, and sore about my left kidney. My appetite has been quite good for most of the time since I was hurt. I am supplied with almost every thing I could desire to make me comfortable, and the little I do lack (some articles of clothing,

which I lost), I may perhaps soon get again. trust) the peace of God, "which passeth all understanding," to "rule in my heart," and the testimony (in some degree) of a good conscience that I have not lived altogether in vain. I can trust God with both the time and the manner of my death, believing, as I now do, that for me at this time to seal my testimony for (God and humanity) with my blood, will do vastly more toward advancing the cause I have earnestly endeavored to promote, than all I have done in my

life before. I beg of you all meekly and quietly to submit to this; not feeling yourselves in the least degraded on that account. Remember, dear wife and children all, that Jesus of Nazareth suffered a most excrutiating death on the cross as a felon, under the most aggraformer days, who went through greater tribu-

May God Almighty comfort all your hearts, and soon wipe away all tears from your eyes. To Him be endless praise. Think, too, of

I wrote most earnestly to my dear and afflicted wife not to come on, for the present

sympathy that is now aroused in your behalf may not always follow you. There is but little more of the romantie

about helping poor widows and their children